

Preliminary Amendment
Appln. No.: National Stage of PCT/JP2004/009127
Attorney Docket No. Q91859

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

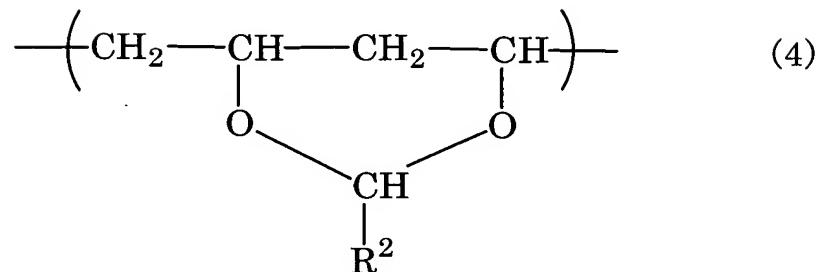
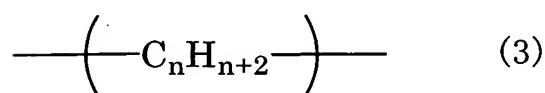
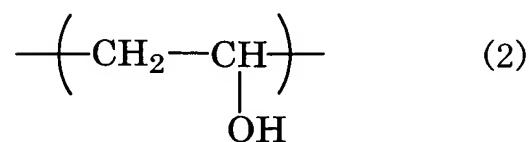
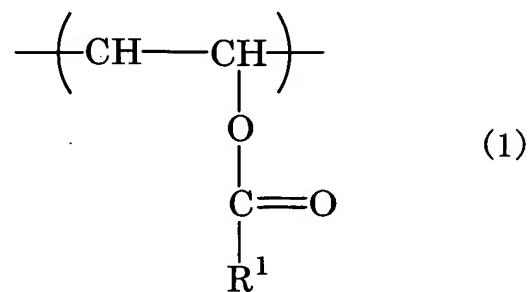
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): A binder resin for coating paste for forming a film or a film pattern comprising inorganic powder by coating,
which comprises a modified polyvinyl acetal resin comprising structural units represented by the following general formulas (1), (2), (3) and (4):

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[Chem. 1]



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in the formulas, R¹ represents a straight chain or branched alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and R² represents hydrogen, a straight chain, branched or cyclic alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or an aryl group; and n represents an integer of 1 to 8; and further in the modified polyvinyl acetal resin, a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (3) is 1 to 20 mol% and a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (4) is 30 to 78 mol%.

2. (original): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1,
wherein a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (2) is 20 to 30 mol%.

3. (currently amended): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~,
wherein R² is CH₃ and/or C₃H₇.

4. (currently amended): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~,
wherein an α-terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa·s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s⁻¹ using an E type viscometer has a ratio (η_{60}/η_{600}) between viscosity η_{60} measured under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s⁻¹ and viscosity η_{600} measured under the conditions of a shear rate of 600 s⁻¹ at 25°C using an E type viscometer being 2.0 to 5.0.

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5. (currently amended): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, wherein an α -terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s⁻¹ using an E type viscometer has a phase angle at 1 Hz and at a stress of 1000 Pa being 87° or more.

6. (currently amended): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1, ~~2 or 3~~, wherein an α -terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s⁻¹ using an E type viscometer has a ratio ($\eta_{600} \rightarrow 60/\eta_{600}$) between viscosity η_{600} measured at a shear rate of 600 s⁻¹ and viscosity η_{60} measured after a lapse of 10 seconds from changing a shear rate to 60 s⁻¹ using an E type viscometer being 1.9 or more, in the case of changing a shear rate from 600 s⁻¹ to 60 s⁻¹ at 25°C.

7. (currently amended): Conductive paste, which comprises the binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4, 5 or 6~~, conductive powder and an organic solvent.

8. (currently amended): Ceramic paste, which comprises the binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4, 5 or 6~~, ceramic powder and an organic solvent.

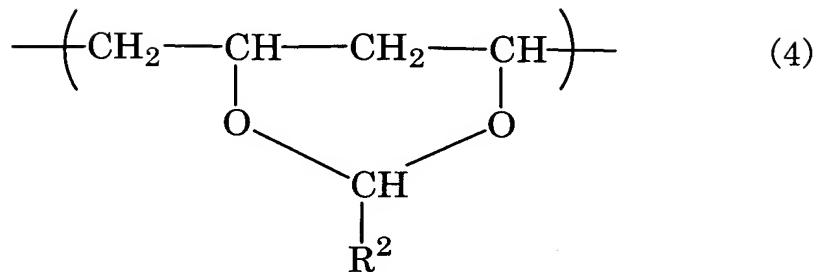
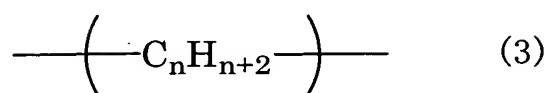
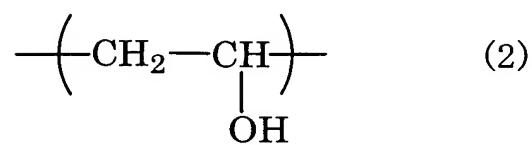
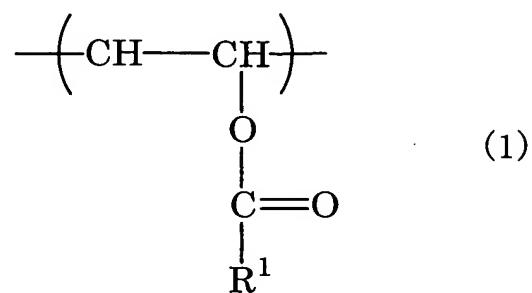
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9. (currently amended): Glass paste,
which comprises the binder resin for coating paste according to claim 1, ~~2, 3, 4, 5 or 6~~,
glass powder and an organic solvent.

10. (original): An application as a binder resin for coating paste of a resin composition comprising a modified polyvinyl acetal resin consisting of structural units represented by the following general formulas (1), (2), (3) and (4):

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[Chem. 2]

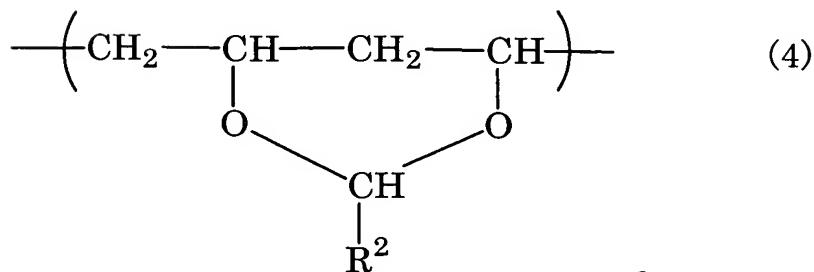
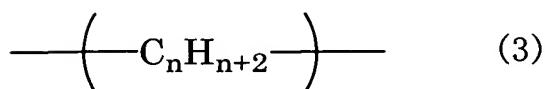
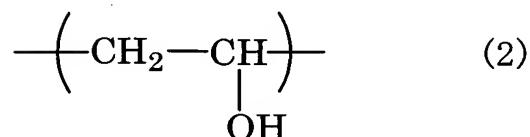
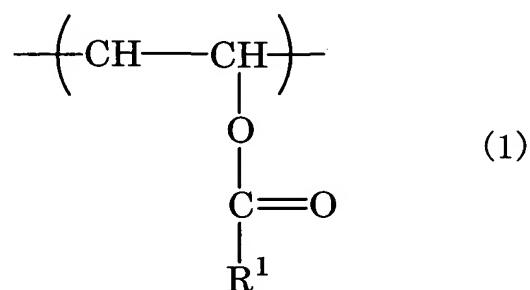


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in the formulas, R¹ represents a straight chain or branched alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and R² represents hydrogen, a straight chain, branched or cyclic alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or an aryl group; and n represents an integer of 1 to 8; and further in the modified polyvinyl acetal resin, a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (3) is 1 to 20 mol% and a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (4) is 30 to 78 mol%.

11. (original): A method of forming a film comprising inorganic powder, which comprises a step of mixing a binder resin for coating paste comprising a modified polyvinyl acetal resin comprising structural units represented by the following general formulas (1), (2), (3) and (4), an organic solvent and inorganic powder, and preparing paste form:

[Chem. 3]



in the formulas, R¹ represents a straight chain or branched alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, and R² represents hydrogen, a straight chain, branched or cyclic alkyl group having 1 to 20 carbon atoms, or an aryl group; and n represents an integer of 1 to 8; and further in the modified polyvinyl acetal resin, a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (3) is 1 to 20 mol% and a content of the structural unit represented by the general formula (4) is 30 to 78 mol%.

12. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 2,
wherein R² is CH₃ and/or C₃H₇.

13. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 2,
wherein an α -terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s⁻¹ using an E type viscometer has a ratio (η 60/ η 600) between viscosity η 60 measured under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s⁻¹ and viscosity η 600 measured under the conditions of a shear rate of 600 s⁻¹ at 25°C using an E type viscometer being 2.0 to 5.0.

14. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 3,
wherein an α -terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s⁻¹ using an E type viscometer has a ratio (η 60/ η 600) between viscosity η 60 measured under the conditions of

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a shear rate of 60 s⁻¹ and viscosity η 600 measured under the conditions of a shear rate of 600 s⁻¹ at 25°C using an E type viscometer being 2.0 to 5.0.

15. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 2,
wherein an α -terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s⁻¹ using an E type viscometer has a phase angle at 1 Hz and at a stress of 1000 Pa being 87° or more.

16. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 3,
wherein an α -terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s⁻¹ using an E type viscometer has a phase angle at 1 Hz and at a stress of 1000 Pa being 87° or more.

17. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 2,
wherein an α -terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have viscosity of 6.0 Pa•s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s⁻¹ using an E type viscometer has a ratio (η 600 → 60/ η 600) between viscosity η 600 measured at a shear rate of 600 s⁻¹ and viscosity η 60 measured after a lapse of 10 seconds from changing a shear rate to 60 s⁻¹ using an E type viscometer being 1.9 or more, in the case of changing a shear rate from 600 s⁻¹ to 60 s⁻¹ at 25°C.

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18. (new): The binder resin for coating paste according to claim 3,
wherein an α -terpineol solution of the modified polyvinyl acetal resin adjusted to have
viscosity of 6.0 Pa·s measured at 25°C under the conditions of a shear rate of 60 s⁻¹ using an E
type viscometer has a ratio ($\eta_{600} \rightarrow 60/\eta_{600}$) between viscosity η_{600} measured at a shear rate
of 600 s⁻¹ and viscosity η_{60} measured after a lapse of 10 seconds from changing a shear rate to
60 s⁻¹ using an E type viscometer being 1.9 or more, in the case of changing a shear rate from
600 s⁻¹ to 60 s⁻¹ at 25°C.

19. (new): Conductive paste,
which comprises the binder resin for coating paste according to claim 2, conductive
powder and an organic solvent.

20. (new): Conductive paste,
which comprises the binder resin for coating paste according to claim 3, conductive
powder and an organic solvent.